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Collection of subscription from the staff of the Government Mental Hospital.

* 1223 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital, Madras, is collecting 4 annas from the staff and employees of the hospital every month; and

(*b*) if so, the purpose for which this collection is made?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The Superintendent of the Mental Hospital, Madras, is not collecting any money from the staff. But the Secretary of the Government Mental Hospital Employees' Club was collecting annas four every month from the members of the club.

" (*b*) This collection was made as a subscription from the members of the Government Mental Hospital Employees' Club, whose main object was to render financial assistance to the workers of the Mental Hospital at the time of dire necessity."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that the Director of Medical Services found that the amount collected was not properly spent and so he instructed the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital to repay the amount collected? Are the Government also aware of the fact that the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital did not repay the amount and if so, what action the Government are going to take on this matter? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Director has given instructions that the club should be wound up."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" எந்தச் சட்டத்தின் அடிப்படையில் இந்த நிதி வசூலிக்கப்படுகிறது ? இது தொழிலாளர்களின் நன்மையை உத்தேசித்து வசூலிக்கப்படுகிறது என்று சர்க்கார் சொன்னால் தொழிலாளர்களின் நன்மையில் உண்மையாகவே அக்கறையிருந்தால் கோவாப்ரேடிவ் க்ரெடிட் சொஸைடியை ஏன் அவர்களுக்கு அமைத்துக் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது ?

11-20 a.m. " May I know under which Act this fund was collected and maintained? Why should not the Government consider the question of instituting a co-operative credit society for the benefit of the staff? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, this question may be considered separately. The club has now been ordered to be wound up."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Sir, however good the purpose for which the collection may be made, is it right to impose such collections on the staff by persons to whom they may not have the moral courage to refuse? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the President and Secretary of this club are nursing orderlies. As I have already said, the club has been ordered to be wound up because the accounts were not properly kept."

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Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in this connexion, may I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that on the 4th April 1954 the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital called one Kabali, a worker in the hospital, to his bungalow and beat him so severely that he fell down unconscious? May I also know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government have received any report in this matter or whether they have made any enquiries in this regard? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I do not see any connexion between this supplementary question and the collection of 4 annas from the hospital staff."

Sri M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" Sir, the worker was beaten for failure to collect the sum of 4 annas."

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, I have no information. This is the first time I hear about this matter."

Supply of electricity to Jayankondan.

* 1224 *Q.*—Sri S. RADHAKRISHNAN (on behalf of Sri K. R. Viswanathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations from the Panchayat Board, Jayankondan, Tiruchirappalli district, to advance a loan to the Kumbakonam Electric Supply Corporation for extending the supply of electricity to Jayankondan and the surrounding parts; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) ' Yes '.

" (*b*) The Government Electricity Department has suggested to the South Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, that if they are willing to surrender certain areas allotted to them, including Udayarpalayam taluk, the question of the Government taking over the areas will be considered. If this materializes, extension of supply to the area by the Government Electricity Department will be examined. Till a decision is taken on the above, the question of granting loan to the Kumbakonam Electric Licensee for taking up the extension to Udayarpalayam taluk will not arise especially as it is not possible at present, for technical reasons, to increase supply of power to this licensee."

Hindu Hostel, Cuddalore.

* 1225 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government subsidize the Hindu Hostel at Tirupapuliyur at Cuddalore, South Arcot district;